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SAUCY INDIAN-STYLE
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CROSS-COUNTRY SKI
IN A WILDLIFE
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WHO HAS CHANCE
TO TAKE HOME
OSCAR?** {page 9}



WINNIPEG

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Wednesday, January 25, 2012
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.

Man hits roof over demo

► Faces charges of assault with a weapon, mischief ► Victoria-Albert School across the street put in lockdown mode



**ELISHA
DACEY**
@METRONEWS.CA

A Winnipeg man who took to the roof of his property after the city moved in to demolish the house came down peacefully Tuesday.

At about 11 a.m., police were called to a home on Bannatyne Avenue after reports that a man had allegedly assaulted a City of Winnipeg property and planning department representative, said Const. Jeff Norman.

The suspect then headed to the roof of the home but came back down after emergency personnel lifted a basket to the top of the house at about 4 p.m., Norman said.

Police did not release the man's name or details of the reported assault, but Imrie Demolition co-owner Jordan Imrie alleged that the man had thrown six-inch glass blocks, the kind normally seen around bathtub surrounds, and one hit him in the head.

"I was wearing my hard hat. I heard the sound of something hitting my hat," said Imrie, adding he was not hurt.



► A homeowner, identified as Ed Ackerman, talks to emergency personnel before getting into the basket and being lowered from the roof.

Lyndsay Ladobruk, who was standing nearby, identified the man on the roof as Ed Ackerman, and said she was his fiancée.

"It's easy to call someone who is standing on a roof right now

crazy, but he is not a violent man at all," said Ladobruk. "If he was throwing glass blocks, it was done in desperation."

Ackerman has been fighting with the city over his properties

for a while, with matters coming to a head in December after he asked the court for an injunction to halt the demolition. The court refused.

City officials said they followed

all proper procedures before giving the demolition order under the derelict buildings bylaw.

A demolition crew moved into the area Tuesday night and the house was torn down.

Making a stand

What prompted the standoff?

- Ed Ackerman owns three properties that were deemed derelict by the city, including the home on Bannatyne Avenue.
- Ackerman's fiancée, Lyndsay Ladobruk, said he was working on the properties to "build them (up) and have them rented" and had already invested \$50,000 in a home that was demolished on Gertie Street.
- A second house owned by Ackerman on Frances Street was demolished on Tuesday morning, prompting him, she said, to flee to the roof to defend his last property.



1 news



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India's Sikhs aren't laughing at Jay Leno's Mitt Romney joke. Watch at metronews.ca/video.

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Teen arrested for arson

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC
WINNIPEG@METRONews.CA

A 16-year-old girl has been arrested and charged with arson after a fire was set at 554 Kent Rd. on Monday.

Winnipeg firefighters were able to extinguish the blaze at 4:15 p.m. and estimate damages to be around \$80,000.

No one was hurt in the blaze but investigators have charged the teenager for allegedly causing arson with damage to property, disregard for human life, and with uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm.

Police could not confirm if the duplex was being used as a youth home, but did confirm the fire started in a bedroom. They could not say if the girl lived there.

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC/FOR METRO



► There was \$80,000 in damages to this home on Kent Road.



► OW protester Isaac Dyck talks through the window to an employee at Gord Mackintosh's office Tuesday while fellow protester Robert Gaumond looks on.

Occupy still waiting for confiscated belongings

► Protesters threaten to occupy MLA Mackintosh's office ► Up to 15 pallets of belongings still being held in compound, protesters say

SEAN LEDWICH
WINNIPEG@METRONews.CA

Occupy Winnipeg members, upset that the province has still not returned some of their belongings since their Dec. 21 eviction from Memorial Park, threatened to occupy provincial MLA Gord Mackintosh's community office on Tuesday.

Two protesters found a locked door and a lone employee on his way out

when they showed up at the newly minted conservation and water stewardship minister's Main Street office at 10:30 a.m. They left shortly after.

Protester Isaac Dyck said although the province has released some OW items, 12 to 15 pallets of shrink-wrapped belongings are still being held at a provincial compound.

Dyck said Conservation district supervisor Joe Johannesson called him Sunday to cancel a plan to

deliver everything to OW protester Louise May's farm on Monday.

"Suddenly, at the last minute before delivery date, he changes the story. Now he says, 'We want people to identify stuff and make a list of whose stuff is whose,'" Dyck said.

"This is more than 30 days after the aggressive removal of our things, and from the very outset they agreed to return to us the things that were confiscated."

Protester Robert Gaumond said the saga has been ongoing and the province is dragging its heels.

"It's just such a low priority to them that it's gotten to the point of negligence, in my opinion."

In an email, the province told Metro it is "eager to return items that were collected at Memorial Park" and owners can call 945-7273 to claim them.

City's first homicide of 2012

Winnipeg police confirmed Tuesday the body of a woman found in an apartment building is the city's first homicide of 2012.

Police said the homicide unit is investigating the death of a 34-year-old woman who was found in the Palmer House apartment block on Assiniboine Avenue.

Const. Jeff Norman said

several people are being interviewed and couldn't say if suspects have been arrested.

He would also not reveal the nature of the woman's injuries, only saying she died in hospital due to severe upper-body trauma.

The woman, whose name is not being released, is being mourned by members of the Eritrean

community.

Lambros Kyriakakos, president of Eritrean Community in Winnipeg Inc., confirmed the woman had arrived in Canada recently.

He also said he would not give out her name, calling that a family decision. He did confirm that the woman's family knew of her death.

ELISHA DACEY

News in brief

Lawyer accused of taking money

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL VICTIMS. A Winnipeg lawyer is accused of taking money improperly from 50 abused former students of aboriginal residential schools.

Howard Tennenhouse faces a disciplinary hearing next month before

the Law Society of Manitoba, and if found guilty, faces penalties that range from a written reprimand to disbarment.

Lawyers for residential school victims are normally given a 15 per cent fee by the federal government, on top of the money awarded to the victims.

Lawyers can seek additional fees from their clients, but only with the approval of an adjudicator.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



ELISHA DACEY/METRO

► The latest email scam has hijacked the name of the Royal Bank of Canada and asks for highly sensitive personal information.

There's something phishy going on

► Police warn of email scam in which RBC asks for personal information online ► Don't fall for it!



ELISHA DACEY
@METRONEWS.CA

Police are again warning Winnipeggers to be careful with their information online.

"This is a pre-emptive strike," said Const. Jeff Norman.

He said several members of the Winnipeg Police Service have been the target of a recent phishing scam in which a mass email is sent out from a major financial institu-

tion asking for personal information in order to "regain" one's account status.

"It's actually quite incredible the questions that they're asking that they want people to respond to and the information that they want to collect," Norman said.

The latest scam pretends to be from the Royal Bank of Canada and asks for sensitive information.

"They now have everything in regards to your

client name, passwords, your occupation, date of birth, card-expiry dates, account numbers. ... If they want to create a false identification and use your ID in order to commit offences ... they have everything that is pertinent to do that."

Norman said people need to remember that financial institutions never ask for personal information through email, and if they are in doubt, they should call their bank to check.

Winnipeg aviation firms are flying high this year

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC/FOR METRO

Two aviation companies will be moving and expanding over the coming year.

The Western Canadian Aviation Museum (WCAM), Winnipeg Airports Authority (WAA) and Exchange Income Corporation (EIC) announced plans on Tuesday to build a new Calm Air hangar next to the present location of the WCAM off Ferry Road.

"We needed space and it was important for us to have the hangar in the same region as our other workforce," said Michael Rodyniuk, vice-president and CEO of aviation at EIC, which owns Calm Air.

The 60,000-square-foot facility, which will be used for doing heavy maintenance on Calm Air's fleet of 100 aircraft, will break ground in May and be fully functional by the fall. Meanwhile, the old WCAM building will be used as possible hangar space after the WCAM



► Michael Rodyniuk stands next to an image of a Calm Air ATR-42, used for transport to the North.

moves closer to the airport.

EIC also announced it has signed a 40-year lease with the WAA for the old museum site and invested \$2.5 million toward building the new museum, which will be situated next to the new airport terminal and is slated to open in October.

● SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC

Death by apathy

► A spokesperson for Heritage Winnipeg said the agency tried to save the old airport terminal as the last example in Canada of mid-century modernist architecture but was unsuccessful due to lack of public, corporate and government interest.

Traffic on the rise at Richardson airport

The new city airport terminal seems to have opened at just the right time.

Passenger traffic at the Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport is up

by 3.6 per cent in the past quarter, compared to the same period last year, according to a release sent out by the Winnipeg Airports Authority.

"The opening of our community's new front door has been well received and we are pleased to see passenger traffic growth strengthen as the year progressed," said Barry Rempel, president and CEO of the Winnipeg Airports Authority. "The new terminal,

combined with the ongoing expansion of the airport campus, is a key enabler of economic development for our region."

Revenues were also up, notching \$20.3 million compared to \$17.8 million during the same time frame last year. But operating costs rose as well to \$11.9 million compared to \$7.9 million last year.

Cash flow remains positive at \$1 million for the quarter, the WAA said.

● ELISHA DACEY

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► From left, Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. David Johnston stand on stage during the opening ceremony at the Crown-First Nations Gathering in Ottawa on Tuesday.

PM, chiefs at odds over Indian Act

► Harper has no plans to repeal legislation ► But many native leaders see it as an obstacle to change

What was billed as a historic coming together of the federal government and First Nations began with the two sides polarized over the future of the Indian Act.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sees the legislation as something that can be updated to reflect modern practices.

But Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, led a parade of speakers who described the century-old legislation as a boulder

"After 136 years, that tree has deep roots. Blowing up the stump would just leave a big hole."

PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER ON THE INDIAN ACT

blocking the path to collaboration.

They laid out their views in back-to-back speeches Tuesday during a major meeting of First Nations leaders and government ministers and officials.

The Indian Act, first passed in 1876, gave Ottawa exclusive jurisdiction over "Indians and Lands Reserved for Indians."

The legislation, which was last amended in 2000, sets out rules on everything from how reserves operate to the effect of marriage on status.

Calling the Indian Act "an act of neo-colonialism," Jody Wilson-Raybould, regional chief of B.C., said Canada's natives require "core governance reform." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Theories not enough: Defence

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

There are simply too many unknowns to be able to convict a man of four counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his daughters and wife, a jury in Ontario heard Tuesday in a case prosecutors allege is a so-called honour killing.

The Crown alleges Mohammad Shafia, 58, one of his two wives and their son killed Shafia's three daughters and other wife. The bodies were found June 30, 2009, in a car at the bottom of a canal in Kingston,



► Mohammad Shafia

but the Crown did not present evidence specifically detailing how it be-

lieves the four died.

The Crown has suggested it believes the four were dead before the car plunged into the water, but in his closing address Tuesday Shafia's lawyer told the jury they can't rely on theories.

Court has heard evidence it appears the four females made no attempt to escape the car through an open window, and the bodies were found eerily suspended inside.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sex killer's wife to fight appeal of media ban

► Opening divorce proceedings to the public would cause Russell Williams' wife more harm: Lawyer

Ontario's top court is granting an appeal of a sweeping publication ban on the divorce of convicted sex killer Russell Williams.

But most of the provisions of the ban will remain in effect for 14 days so that Williams' estranged wife can take steps to challenge the decision if she wishes, according to the 28-page decision released Tuesday by the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Mary Jane Binks, the Ottawa lawyer representing Williams' wife, said her client will take the matter to the country's highest court. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Fighting the ban

The ban was challenged by a coalition of news agencies, including the Ottawa Citizen, the Ottawa Sun, CTV, CBC and Global TV.

► Richard Dearden, who represents the media, called it an "important decision for freedom of the process."

► "There's a real public interest in knowing how the court is going to divide assets, like Mr. Williams' military pension, and what's going to be left over for Mr. Williams' victims to seek to enforce any judgments."



NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Ontario's top court is granting an appeal of a sweeping publication ban on the divorce of convicted sex killer Russell Williams.

'America is back'

U.S. President Barack Obama says "America is back" as a world power.

The president gave a flag-waving defence of American power and influence Monday night as part of his State of the Union address. He said world opinions about the U.S. are on the rise, and he calls America the "indispensable nation" in world affairs.

He talked about extending new ties and influence

toward Asia, while claiming that old alliances in Europe and elsewhere are stronger than ever. Obama also cited the example of Iran, where with U.S. prompting much of the world is now united in applying sanctions over Iran's disputed nuclear program.

Obama left out that the sanctions net has holes, because some of Iran's large oil-trading partners won't go along. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

News in brief

Bandit hurt his own case: Docs

U.S. federal court documents say the "Barefoot Bandit" ridiculed police and prosecutors in emails he sent from prison, undercutting his claims he's sorry for his two-year crime spree. He bragged that his accom-

plishments were "amazing." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

B.C. commune wants tax break

The leader of a B.C. polygamous commune on trial for suspected tax evasion says money earned by his followers is used in the community. Winston Blackmore says his community deserves special religious tax status. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Woman wakes from coma

The family of a Calgary woman who was severely beaten in Mexico says she emerged from a medically induced coma Monday and recognized her husband at her bedside.

Paul Giles said doctors in

Mexico revived his sister, Sheila Nabb, three days after she suffered a brutal beating at a luxury hotel.

The 37-year-old woman had her cheek and other facial bones broken in the attack, and was found in a

pool of blood early Saturday at the Hotel Riu Emerald in Mazatlan.

Her brother said that when she awoke Monday, she wasn't able to speak because doctors had wired her mouth shut. But Giles said

she recognized her husband, Andrew Nabb, and was responsive.

Nabb is set to undergo facial reconstructive surgery Wednesday or Thursday based on the outcome of CT scans. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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► Sheila Nabb and her husband Andrew in an undated family photo.

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Facebook, Google go head-to-head

The two biggest powers on the Internet, Google and Facebook, are in a high-stakes battle to be your search engine.

And this isn't just an online fight: The U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the European Union are investigating whether the Google monopoly unfairly damages other search engines.

Top guns at Facebook have created a new book-market and a stern lec-

ture in fairness to counter Google's own attempt two weeks ago to become more Facebook-like.

Google on Jan. 10 released Search Plus, a new search tool on its site. Search Plus scours the Internet through Google and Google Plus.

This means it leaves out the world's most popular social networking sites: Facebook and Twitter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google merges user data

Google Inc. is overhauling the way it treats user data, linking information across its array of email, video and social networking

services so that information gathered in one place can be used in another.

For example, if you spent the last hour logged into Google to search the web for skateboards, the next time you log into YouTube, there's a good chance you'll find videos featuring Tony Hawk.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WikiLeaks founder takes act to TV, promises controversy

► 40-year-old Julian Assange to host new talk show that will air in March

You've read his leaks. Now watch his show.

Cyber-transparency activist Julian Assange says he's launching a career in television, hosting what he's billing as a new brand of talk show built around the theme of "the world tomorrow."

The show's guests haven't been disclosed, but Assange has promised to give viewers more of what he's been supplying for years: Controversy.

The WikiLeaks secret-spilling site said in a statement released late Monday that "iconoclasts, visionaries and power insiders" would be brought in so that Assange could challenge them on their vision of world affairs and "their ideas on how to secure a

► Julian Assange pauses as he makes a statement to media gathered outside the High Court in London.



brighter future."

The world of television talk shows is a new one for the 40-year-old Australian, whose group has orchestrated the biggest mass-disclosures of secret

documents in U.S. history. But the statement argued that Assange was uniquely qualified for the role given his past as "a pioneer for a more just world and a victim of political repression."

WikiLeaks

- WikiLeaks said the show would begin airing in mid-March.
- Julian Assange is currently fighting extradition to Sweden over sex-crimes allegations, and U.S. officials are weighing WikiLeaks' charges.

In its statement, WikiLeaks referred queries about the series to the hitherto obscure Quick Roll Productions, whose website carried no indication of where the group was based or who was managing it. An online records search indicated that Quick Roll's site was created about two weeks ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vancouver eatery sells world's priciest hotdog

KENDRA WONG
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver is now home to the most expensive hotdog in the world.

Eatery DougieDog Hot Dogs introduced a \$100 wiener to its menu Tuesday.

The Dragon Dog is made up of a foot-long bratwurst infused with 100-year-old Louis XIII cognac — which has a price tag of \$2,000 — Kobe beef seared in olive and truffle oil, fresh lobster, and picante sauce.

"When people have food, you have to be able to taste the different tastes. People have the chance to taste each (individual ingredient)," said Dougie Luv, owner of DougieDog Hot Dogs and a hotdog connoisseur. "All the tastes intertwine with each other."

The Dragon Dog may seem extravagant for some taste buds, but Luv insists it remains true to the original hotdog.

► Dougie Luv, owner of DougieDog Hot Dogs, with the world's most expensive hot dog in Vancouver.



"I didn't want to change the concept of a hotdog, we wanted to inspire it and bring it to the next level," he said. "It's a hotdog that anyone would love."

No one has ordered the pricey wiener yet, but Luv says it will remain a permanent feature on the menu.

However, patrons looking to take a bite out of the dog will need to place their order 12 hours in advance so the special ingredients can be prepped.

Luv's creation was named the world's most expensive hotdog after beating out the \$69 Haute Dog found at Serendipity restaurant in New York.

Paper-clip dentist pleads guilty in court

A former dentist in the U.S. has pleaded guilty to fraud for using paper clips instead of stainless steel posts in root canals.

Michael Clair will be sentenced next Monday after pleading guilty last week in a Massachusetts court to a variety of charges, including defrauding a government health program of \$130,000, assault and battery, illegally prescribing prescription drugs, and witness intimidation.

Authorities say instead of stainless steel posts for root canals, he used sections of paper clips — which can cause pain and even infection — in an effort to save money.

Attorney General Martha Coakley says paper clips can sometimes be used temporarily, but the 53-year-old Clair used the paper clips as a permanent fix. Clair's licence to practise dentistry was suspended in Massachusetts in 2006.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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IMF cuts Canada's growth forecast

Canada's recovery is being dragged down by a cascading crisis in Europe and weakening conditions elsewhere, the International Monetary Fund suggests in its latest economic outlook.

The Washington-based monitor of global financial affairs said Tuesday that Canada's economy will likely now grow by only 1.7 per cent, more than half a point below 2011's 2.3 per cent advance. The new forecast is three notches lower than the Bank of Canada's estimate last week — and two-tenths of a point lower than the IMF's own previous call in September.

The IMF doesn't see the economy in Canada strengthening much in 2013. Unlike the central bank, which predicts 2.8 per cent expansion, it says Canada's recovery will be

Market moment

TSX	Dollar
	
- 126.46 (12,395.24)	- 0.16¢ (99.01¢ US)
Oil	Natural gas
	
- 19¢ US (\$99.09 US)	\$2.58 US (+ 5.7¢ US)
	Gold
	\$1,664.50 US (- \$13.80 US)

restrained to two per cent.

That's still tops among G7 countries for the two years combined, but only because the other six members of the club will be hit even harder by the EU crisis. Germany, Italy and Spain will record negative growth in 2012 and the eurozone will suffer a mild recession, the IMF said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Women's groups condemn tabloids

U.K. inquiry moves from hacking to the portrayal of women in media

Britain's inquiry into media ethics shifted its focus away from phone hacking Tuesday to look into how women are portrayed in U.K. newspapers.

Women's-rights campaigners told the inquiry that newspapers treat women as sex objects and mis-report cases of rape and domestic violence.

Anna Van Heeswijk of women's-campaigns group Object said that sexualized images of topless or skimpily clad women in British tabloid newspapers damage the way young women think of their appearances and lifestyles.

She said anyone who complained about the newspapers' use of these images in turn was vilified, and pointed to how The Sun newspaper called lawmaker Clare Short "fat, jealous" when she tried to stop

the tabloid from printing a daily photograph of a topless woman on page 3.

"Clearly the effect has been to close down free speech in relation to groups and individuals making a critique against these newspapers," Van Heeswijk said.

Marai Larasi of campaign group End Violence Against Women said newspaper stories about attacks on women often focused on their actions, implying that somehow they had provoked their attackers. She said newspaper reports about a woman murdered by her husband after she announced a separation on social networking site Facebook focused on her actions and not her husband's violence.

"The fact that it became known as a Facebook murder is symbolic," she said. "It was the murder of a real



► Object campaigner Anna Van Heeswijk on the cover of the Guardian's magazine, The Observer.

woman by her partner."

The media-ethics inquiry was set up after revelations that Rupert Murdoch's News of the World newspaper had illegally listened to

cellphone voice mails of celebrities, politicians and crime victims. New forms of press regulations are to be considered.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR — THEY'RE CATS

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



OK, class, today's question: How did we get from seeing-eye dogs to emotional-support animals?

Air Canada is trying to figure out how to accommodate people who insist on taking their cats on the plane and at the same time protect people who are allergic to cats.

They forgot to ask me, but the answer is obvious. Tell people to leave Kitty at home.

I have nothing against cats, but referring to them as "emotional-support animals" and thereby elevating them to the status of seeing-eye dogs is a stretch and a clear sign that the entitlement society needs to cough up a hairball and get real.

I realize I'm treading on wafer-thin ice, but if you want an emotional-support animal, get a golden retriever. They love everybody, almost as much as they

love food, and are happy to see you, especially if you come with food.

Cats, on the other hand, barely notice other species that aren't dinner. They may crawl into your lap and go to sleep, but only because it's a warm place to go to sleep. They don't discriminate, as anyone who has ever awakened to find a cat sleeping on their face can tell you.

But even if Kitty loves you, why return the favour by stuffing Kitty in a tiny box and making her fly economy?

(Just to make it clear, I'm an equal-opportunity

curmudgeon: The same goes for shih tzus and the like. Leave your adorable mutt at home in the care of a competent kennel.)

What's really annoying is this tendency to escalate beyond all reason. It's one thing to feel the urge to take Kitty to visit Aunt Bossy in Halifax, quite another to declare Kitty an "emotional-support animal," raising her companionship to the level of ersatz human right. Right.

And shame on Air Canada for knuckling under. I like peanuts, but the airline had no difficulty depriving me of the tasty legume in order to protect other passengers from anaphylactic shock. As if?

Air Canada needs to know I'm addicted to peanuts. Once I get started, I can't stop. Without peanuts, I'll never make it to Halifax. Those little cracker things don't fill the bill; I require emotional-support nuts.

And if I don't get them, I'll complain to my friendly neighbourhood human-rights commission, which never met a complaint it didn't like.

Then, I'm going into hiding.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying



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and take the quick poll

Who do you think will win the Super Bowl?

56%

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS



44%

NEW YORK GIANTS

Local tweets



► **@WellYoureWrong:** So its the Winnipeg Blue Bombers

vs Houston Oilers in the Super Bowl right?

► **@kattiestbullet:** Not sure when the law was passed in Winnipeg to NOT use turning signals anymore. #takes1second #winnipeg-problems

► **@wilalambre:** I think I need to buy "Clue" and "Scotland Yard" in the near future, and have folks over a night to re-familiarize myself with the games.

► **@stmac77:** I wonder what Winnipeg Jets players nick-

name is for Ron Hainsey? Seems that might send hockey's players for a loop #jets #awfulnicknames

► **@SiloamMission:** "Volunteers don't necessarily have the time, they just have the heart." - Unknown. Thank you #Winnipeg & #Manitoba for your _'s.

► **@TheAdnestic:** The weather in Winnipeg isn't horrible. I may venture outside of the hotel to try a well-reviewed Chinese restaurant tonight.

► **@gabesquared:** west end is the universal studios of winnipeg. #actionpacked

Daily Zoom

Itsy-bitsy spiders — hard at work



Spider-silk cape on display

LONDON. This may not fit arachnophobes!

A golden cape created from silk spun by more than a million spiders goes on display at London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

The hand-woven garment took more than four years to make from the silk of 1.2-million female golden orb spiders, native to Madagascar. ● **MWN**



► Makers say spider silk is lighter than normal silk.

"We wanted to make something (in which) you'd feel cocooned like a spider web. ... There is a strange dichotomy between the repulsive and 'poetic' in spiders."

SIMON PEERS,
TEXTILE EXPERT AND CO-CREATOR

How 80 people collected silk

PROCESS. To create the textiles, spiders are collected each morning and harnessed in "silking" devices.

Trained handlers take out the silk from 24 spiders at a time.

Unlike mulberry silk from silkworms, in which the pupa is killed in its cocoon, the spiders are returned to the wild at the end of the day. ● **MWN**



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Winners and losers

► Even before awards night, there are clearly some overlooked films heading into the Oscar season ► But there are a few big surprises, some odd nods and Canadian talent in the mix

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

In the first year where the number of Best Picture nominees can be anywhere between five and 10, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences settled on nine Tuesday morning, with *The Artist*, *The Descendants*, *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*, *The Help*, *Hugo*, *Midnight in Paris*, *Moneyball*, *The Tree of Life* and *War Horse* doing battle for the big prize. Here's a look at the winners and losers heading into Oscar season.

BIGGEST WINNERS

Martin Scorsese's delightful *Hugo* garnered the most nominations with 11, with popular favourite *The Artist* right behind at 10. Stephen Spielberg's *War Horse* and David Fincher's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* received six and five nominations, respectively, though neither made it into the Best Director category. But the biggest winner of *is Bridesmaids* — and comedy in general — with the

raunchy box office hit pulling in nominations for Best Adapted Screenplay as well as Best Supporting Actress for Melissa McCarthy.

BIGGEST LOSERS

The biggest omission seems to be in the Best Animated Feature race, which Spielberg's *The Adventures of Tintin* has been winning handily at other awards shows. But the European favourite

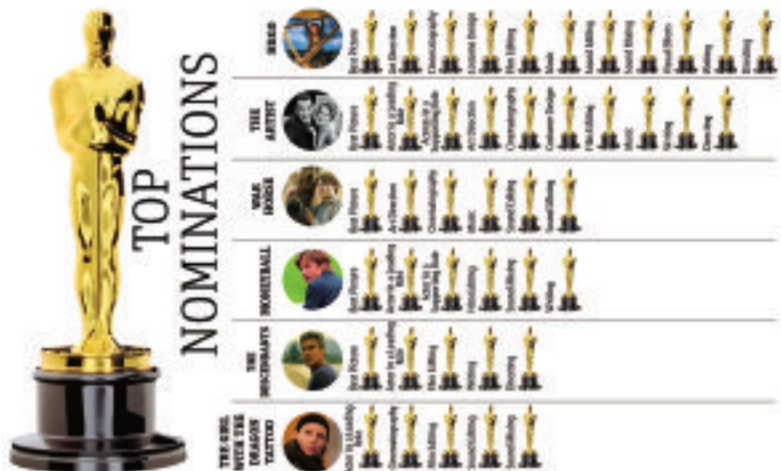
didn't earn a mention in this category. Outside of animation, Clint Eastwood's Oscar-bait misfire *J. Edgar* failed to earn a single nomination.

BIGGEST SURPRISES

The pair of nominations for *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close* — Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor — seemed to come out of nowhere, as the film hasn't made an impact in any other awards races. A

Better Life star Demián Bichir, who also earned a Screen Actors Guild nomination for his outstanding performance, is a welcome surprise that will hopefully bring attention to an amazing but overlooked drama. And while Iran's *A Separation* is unstoppable in the Foreign Language category, many expected Angelina Jolie's *In the Land of Blood and Honey* to at least garner a nomi-

nation, as it did at the Golden Globes.



Local talent

Canadians at the Oscars

► **Nominations** Toronto-born, Montreal-raised acting legend Christopher Plummer nabbed a Best-Supporting Actor nomination for *Beginners*.

► **Score** Toronto-born composer Howard Shore is up for best score for *Hugo*.

► **Language** Philippe Falardeau's *Monsieur Lazhar* is nominated for best foreign-language film.

► **Short** Montreal's Patrick Doyon is up for best animated film for his short *Dimanche/Sunday*. Meanwhile, Calgary-based filmmakers Amanda Forbis and Wendy Tilby are in the running for their Prairie-based picture *Wild Life*.

► **Mixing** Welland, Ont.-raised David Giammarco hit a home run with a nomination for best sound mixing for *Moneyball*.

2

scene

Court

A trial to decide the broadcast rights of the Golden Globe Awards is set to start after a judge and attorneys resolved last-minute issues concerning witnesses and exhibits. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Teen star Keke Palmer moves on from Nickelodeon with a more adult role in 'Joyful Noise'

metros

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How movies teach us about life's Grey areas

- Looking to survive a plane crash in the Andes? Or how to live as a shipwrecked loner on a tropical island?
- Just press 'play' and sit down with a bowl of popcorn

CONTRIBUTED



► A scene from *The Grey*, which opens Friday. The film's plot revolves around an oil drilling team that struggles to survive in the wild after a plane crash.

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



This Christmas I got a book titled *The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook*.

Contained within were tidbits of information on how to survive shark attack, a volcano eruption, even what to do when the pilot passes out leaving you to land the plane.

It's an interesting read, but I am a visual person and have learned much more about survival from watching movies than from the pages of this book.

From this weekend's *The Grey*, a man versus nature tale starring Liam Neeson, I learned that empty airplane booze bottles can be broken, wedged between your fingers and repurposed as Wolverine-style knuckles of death.

Hopefully I'll never have to use that trick, but it is just one of many lessons learned at the movies.

Alive, the story of

Uruguay's rugby team whose plane crashed in the middle of the Andes mountains, I learned that cannibalism is a good way to stave off hunger pangs.

A similar lesson was taught in the Robert Redford film *Jeremiah Johnson*, based on a real-life trapper named John Johnston, nicknamed "Liver Eater Johnston" for his habit of cutting out and eating the livers of men he killed.

From the true-to-life mountain climbing movies *127 Hours* and *Touching the Void*, I learned perseverance.

In the former a man is wedged literally between a rock and a hard place. To get free he cuts off his own arm with a pocketknife. Now that's stick-to-itiveness!

The latter sees a man with a severely broken leg crawling his way out of a deep crevice to safety.

From *Cast Away*, Tom Hanks's stranded-on-a-desert-isle movie, I learned how to build a raft from a portable toilet, and how, in lieu of friends, a soccer ball with a bloody handprint can be man's best friend.

Should you find yourself stranded on a snow-

"From this weekend's *The Grey*, a man versus nature tale starring Liam Neeson, I learned that empty airplane booze bottles can be broken, wedged between your fingers and repurposed as Wolverine-style knuckles of death."

shoer mountain top think back to the Lance Henriksen movie *Survival Quest*; not only does it teach viewers to forage for food and raft raging waters, but also how to dig an ice cave to survive the bitter cold.

In case of a zombie attack the classic George A. Romero movies teach us all we need to know. Remember the rhyme: "Shoot the living dead in the head."

Should you find yourself in mortal combat with a monster, another tip learned from dozens of other horror films suggests that once you've slain the creature, don't double check to make sure it's really dead.

I saw mommy kissing ... 10 guys in a hot tub

► First single mom to star on this season's *Bachelorette*

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



Here's the thing about *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*: If you want to put yourself in a ridiculous situation by vying for the "love" of some stranger while a group of other similarly-dressed people do the same on national TV, that's fine. You are a (semi) rational adult and that's your weird bag. However, it's when kids are involved that I get the heebie-jeebies.

It was announced yesterday that Emily Maynard, the 25-year-old single mom who was the chosen one on *The Bachelor* with Brad Womack, but then broke up with him shortly thereafter, will now be the star of the eighth season of *The Bachelorette*.

Although there is no word on what kind of role Maynard's six-year-old daughter will play in the series, the ABC press releases are quick to point out that Maynard is the



► Emily Maynard is the new *Bachelorette*.

first single mom to star in the series. Maynard's little girl also appeared on *The Bachelor*.

Look. It's great that single moms can be on *The Bachelorette*.

In fact, the series needs to broaden their casting net — more single moms! More single dads!

How about single granddads? Heck, what about a contestant who isn't white? But isn't it confus-

ing enough for little children when their parents date multiple people/make out half-dressed in hot tubs without being on network TV?

Let's hope ABC won't showboat the little girl for ratings, like they did with single dad Jason Mesnick's then four-year-old son Ty on *The Bachelor*.

Let's leave that poor parent to *Teen Mom*, shall we?

Jolie giving out cold shoulders

PERHAPS IT'S THE LACK OF MEAT ON HER BONES Awards season is apparently getting awkward, as Angelina Jolie hasn't warmed to George Clooney's new girlfriend, Stacy Keibler, according to *Us Weekly*.

Jolie and Brad Pitt reportedly shared a private jet with Clooney and Keibler to the Palm Springs Film Festival, and sources say the plane couldn't get there fast enough.

"Angelina refused to acknowledge that Stacy was even on the plane," a source says.



► Angelina Jolie

"Angelina went out of her way to ignore her, from takeoff to landing. She would not even look Stacy's way. She was not having it." **METRO**

Celebrity tweets



"Sitting on a balcony watching @CormacMcCarthy far hills. White spire peaks. I feel blessed. Despite the stabbers the day has been kind."



@ParisHilton "Had fun at Sundance, just got back to LA. I will be posting some iPhone pics from my trip soon. Stay tuned..."

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3 life

Travel in brief



The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, The Grateful Dead, U2 and hundreds of other acts have played the legendary outdoor stage at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, nestled between two sandstone monoliths in the Rocky Mountains foothills outside Denver. On Jan. 27, Atmosphere and rapper Common, shown, are headlining the venue's first concert in the middle of winter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Haida exhibition produced by three Canadian museums to tour Europe.

Four must try spa trends

► From sound therapy to family-friendly spas, there are plenty of fresh treatments to test out



► Disney's family resort and spa Aulani in Hawaii.

1

Family Affair

More spas are accommodating adults and kids together. "The new thing is that it's the family. People want to go with their

children to spas. Not all of them, of course. Some want to go without," said Susie Ellis, president of the online spa portal SpaFinder. "We're seeing now the spas responding and very much making it more of a welcome place for kids."

3

Extra wow factor

Some spas are trying to wow and woo with unusual, eye-popping decor that defies traditional minimalism. In Thailand, a luxurious rainforest wicker treehouse, 'The Nest,' serves as a private spa suite suspended from tree



► 'The Nest' at Coqoon Spa in Phuket.

branches at the Coqoon Spa at Indigo Pearl in Phuket.

2

Colour, Light, Music, Vibration

Incorporating them as ambient afterthoughts is nothing new for the spa industry. Now they're 'becoming the main event,' a report from SpaFinder said.

One innovation is software that creates real-time music, tones, beats and other sounds like wind rustling and rivers to beats generated by a therapist's movements in tandem with the client's bodily responses during massages,



► While music used to be an ambient afterthought in spas, it's now an integral part of many treatments.

SpaFinder said. The client leaves with a CD of the 'well-being music-art' they helped create.

4

Cold and ice

The industry is taking a cue from the Romans, who more than 2,000 years ago finished spa-like experiences with a trip to the 'frigidarium.' At ESPA locations around the world, clients can scoop ice crystals from fountains to rub



► Spa expos are one place to learn about new therapies.

down after saunas. At the Qua Baths & Spa in Caesars Palace Las Vegas, there is an 'arctic ice room' to sit amid falling snow.

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Go gliding through a winter wonderland

▶ Yellowstone National Park isn't just a summer destination ▶ See its beauty from a pair of cross-country skis



MATT VOLZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Winter is a perfect time to get immersed in Yellowstone National Park.

Yellowstone National Park's wilderness is reclaimed when the throngs of summer tourists leave and the temperature drops below zero. Most of the park's roads and services shut down, and the landscape is transformed into an otherworldly land of ice and snow.

Relatively few people venture into the park at this time, just 17,262 overnight visitors last winter compared to the nearly 1.2 million overnight stays between June and September 2010.

The wildlife re-emerges with the people gone, and wolves, foxes, swans, geese, eagles, bison and elk are more frequently seen at this time of year.

It's also a prime time for cross-country skiing. Yellowstone in winter has plenty of trails for novices and experts alike. No matter the skill level, a ski trip in Yellowstone leaves you with a sense of the park's beauty that is completely different from the busy summer months.

For \$40, you can get a two-hour lesson and get outfitted with skis, boots and poles for 24 hours.

At the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel near the northern entrance, plot out your ski route.

These are the only accommodations inside the park during the winter season from mid-December until the first weekend of

March.

There's usually plenty of space throughout the season, with Old Faithful normally running at about 70 per cent of capacity and Mammoth about 60 per cent full. The exception is Christmas, when the lodges are usually full.

Once you get to Old Faithful in winter, you're pretty much stuck there unless you pony up another \$62 to take the three-hour snowcoach back to West Yellowstone.

The rooms at Old Faithful are \$206 a night, there's no television and reservations are a must at the one restaurant.

But the adventure begins just outside the door with the iconic geyser as

the main attraction. Most wintertime visitors choose to tour the park by snowcoach or snowmobile. But there's really no better way to become immersed in the park than with a pair of skis. There are the easy

outings, such as the trails around the Upper Geyser Basin just outside of the lodge.

Then there are the tougher ones, including arduous trails to the Continental Divide.

For those who don't want to waste any more time than necessary, and have an extra \$16.50, a shuttle is available to take skiers to more distant trailheads.

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Sandwich that chicken

► This Curried Chicken Naan Sandwich mixes the picante flavour of curry and a dash of orange juice



► This recipe serves four.

Preparation:

1 In skillet heat oil over medium-high heat and cook onion and garlic 3 mins. or until starts to soften. Add chicken, cur-

ry powder, coriander and turmeric; cook, stirring 2 mins. Whisk cornstarch into orange juice and add to skillet; bring to boil. Reduce heat and

simmer 5 mins. or until chicken is no longer pink inside.

2 Remove from heat; stir in yogurt, coriander, chutney, salt, pepper.

3 Spread mix over 1 naan bread and top with spinach. Top with other naan and cut in quarters to serve. **NEWS CANADA/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)**

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) canola oil
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) diced red onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 12 oz (375 g) boneless skinless chicken breasts, diced

- 2 tsp (10 mL) curry powder
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) each ground coriander/turmeric
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) cornstarch
- 3/4 cup (175 mL) Florida orange juice
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) 0 % plain Greek yogurt

- 3 tbsp (45 mL) chopped fresh coriander
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) mango chutney
- Pinch each salt & pepper
- 2 large naan breads
- 1 cup (250 mL) baby spinach

Getting kids to care

► Dr. Oz finds way of talking well-being with youngsters



MEREDITH ENGEL
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

When he's not operating on patients, hosting a talk show or authoring books, Dr. Mehmet Oz devotes his time to his charity, HealthCorps, a Peace Corps-like program that sends college grads into high schools to mentor students on health and well-being.

Why is peer-to-peer mentoring the right approach to take to teach kids about their health?

Well, part of it is because I have kids. I was asked by their school to give a talk to them once about 10 years ago, and they seemed sort of bored but I gave the talk anyway. The next day, as I got to the hospital, I had probably a dozen phone



► Dr. Mehmet Oz

calls from corporate executives, lawyers [and] other doctors saying their kids had come home that night and had told them things like "If you have a piece of bread, it's like having a candy bar." And it began a process in my mind: If we can get these kids to talk with each other in a way that makes it cool to push back against your parents, they'll do it.

I'm not the one to deliver that message, but I can get college kids to do it.

What are your goals for the program, and what are you doing to reach them?

I want to have HealthCorps schools in every major city in America, and I want to have them in every state. We may not be in every school, and I think one of the things we're learning is that we can develop [the] best practices from the many schools we're in that other schools can adopt and begin to use in their own programs. We're gonna call it HealthCorps University. So either you'll have one of my volunteers in your school who will teach your kids about health, and [for] anybody else, health teachers can take the syllabus and use it on their own.

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Jets lack bite in Big Apple

► Lundqvist closes door for Rangers as Winnipeg falls to 0-8 in second of back-to-back games

FRANK FRANKLIN II/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Henrik Lundqvist stopped 22 shots in a bit of a surprise start, and Ryan Callahan, John Mitchell and Brad Richards provided the offence in the New York Rangers' 3-0 victory over the Winnipeg Jets on Tuesday night.

Lundqvist (22-10-4) made his fifth consecutive start for the Eastern Conference-leading Rangers because backup Martin Biron was out with the flu.

Biron allowed only one goal in beating the Jets in New York's two previous meetings this season, and Lundqvist picked up where he left off. The all-star earned his fifth shutout and 40th in seven NHL seasons.

Winnipeg, which lost 2-1 at Carolina on Monday, was outshot 31-22.

New York has won four of six.

Callahan gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead just 4:05 in when he got to a rebound of defenceman An-



► Jets goalie Ondrej Pavelec watches the Rangers skate away after assistant captain Brad Richards's third-period goal on Tuesday night.

ton Stralman's shot and slammed it into the wide-open left side of the net for his 17th of the season. The New York captain has three goals and two assists in his last four games.

Winnipeg didn't have much jump in the first period, when it was outshot 11-6, and rarely had control of the puck. The Jets picked up the pace in the second, landing several heavy hits,

40

Henrik Lundqvist's shutout was his fifth of 2011-12 and 40th in seven NHL seasons.

but still generated only six more shots — none of which seriously threatened Lundqvist.

The Jets' best chance

came late in the second when Blake Wheeler tried to jam a shot in that was stuffed to the post by Lundqvist's spread out pad. The puck skimmed through the crease, and was nearly deflected in by Lundqvist, but he lifted his right leg just in time — allowing the puck to slide by and out of danger.

Just two minutes earlier, Mitchell stretched the

Rangers' lead to 2-0 with his fifth of the season and third in five games.

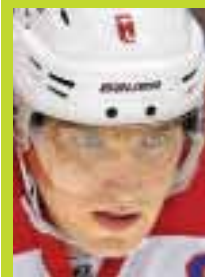
When Winnipeg put pressure on Lundqvist, he was up to the task. Less than three minutes into the third period, Tanner Glass had a chance from point-blank range near the right post, but Lundqvist got over and stopped the drive with his pad.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4

sports

Quoted



there. I got suspended so why do I have to go there?"

WASHINGTON CAPITALS FORWARD ALEX OVECHKIN, WHO HAS DECIDED HE WON'T PARTICIPATE IN THIS WEEKEND'S ALL-STAR GAME BECAUSE OF A THREE-GAME SUSPENSION HANDED TO HIM BY THE NHL EARLIER THIS WEEK.

"Given the circumstances involved, we understand Mr. Ovechkin's decision in this regard and have no intention of pursuing this matter further."

NHL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BILL DALY IN A STATEMENT.



Scan code for more sports.

Fielder on way to Detroit: Source

Free agent first baseman Prince Fielder and the Detroit Tigers agreed Tuesday on a nine-year, \$214 million US contract that fills the AL Central champions' need for a power hitter, a person familiar with the deal said.

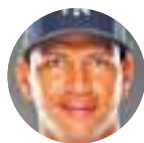
CBS first reported the agreement.

The person told The Associated Press that the deal was subject to a physical. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract was not yet complete.

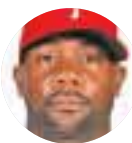
Detroit boldly stepped up in the Fielder sweep-

Paid in full

Among current players, Fielder's new yearly average pay would be the fifth highest in the major leagues.



Alex Rodriguez,
Yankees
\$27.5 million,



Ryan Howard,
Phillies
\$25 million



Cliff Lee,
Phillies
\$24 million



Albert Pujols,
Angels
\$24 million



Prince Fielder,
Tigers
\$23.78 million

stakes after the recent knee injury to star Victor Martinez. A week ago, the Tigers announced that the productive designated hit-

ter could miss the entire season after tearing his left ACL during off-season conditioning.

The Tigers won their di-

vision by 15 games before losing in the AL championship series to Texas.

Adding the 27-year-old Fielder gives the Tigers two

of the game's premier sluggers, pairing him with Miguel Cabrera.

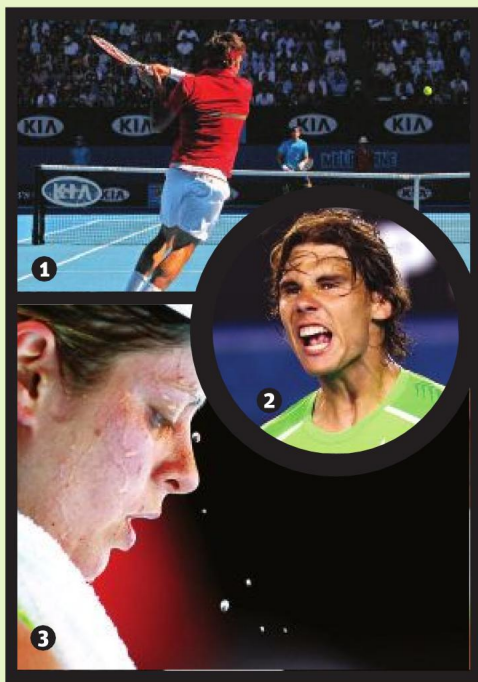
With Cabrera and Fielder, Detroit will begin this season with two players under age 30 with at least 200 career homers. According to STATS LLC, that's happened only once before. At the start of the 1961 season, the Milwaukee Braves featured 29-year-old Eddie Matthews (338 homers) and 27-year-old Hank Aaron (219).

Fielder has averaged 40 homers and 113 RBIs over the past five years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australian Open in pictures

PHOTOS
1. VIVEK PRAKASH- POOL/GETTY IMAGES
2. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES
3. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES



1

Roger Federer advanced to his ninth straight semifinal at Melbourne Park with a 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 quarter-final win Tuesday over Juan Martin del Potro.

2

Rafael Nadal advanced with a tough 6-7 (5), 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-3 win over Tomas Berdych, setting up a rare semifinal matchup against Federer. Federer and Nadal have been on opposite halves of the draw since the 2005 French Open.

3

Defending women's champion Kim Clijsters, still dealing with a left ankle injury, advanced to an Australian Open semifinal against third-seeded Victoria Azarenka by beating No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki 6-3, 7-6 (4) Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Morrow, Jays agree to three-year deal

► Pitcher gets \$20 million US, avoids arbitration

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Brandon Morrow and the Toronto Blue Jays didn't need to rely on a third party to come to terms after all.

Morrow has signed a three-year, \$20-million US deal with the Blue Jays to avoid an arbitration hearing. Toronto also has a \$10-million club option for the 2015 season.

Morrow had asked for \$4.2 million in arbitration after posting an 11-11 record last season with a 4.72 ERA and 203 strikeouts over 179½ innings. Toronto countered with an offer of \$3.9 million to the six-foot-three, 196-pound right-hander.

Prior to exchanging salary figures, Toronto general manager Alex Anthopoulos left the door



► Brandon Morrow conducts a phone interview on Tuesday.

open to a potential long-term deal with Morrow but said the club was also fine with meeting with an arbitrator to finalize contract details.

At a hastily called news conference Tuesday, Morrow said he had no fear about the prospect of going to an arbitration hearing and was actually looking forward to the

process.

"To be honest, I'm interested in things like that," he told reporters at Rogers Centre. "I think the whole process and mini-court situation is actually interesting to me and a little intriguing."

"But I was much happier to be able to work on the multi-year (deal) with Alex." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- Creative, efficient, flexible, entrepreneurial, collaborative & detail oriented
- Strong communication abilities: writing, presentation and design
- Proven track record in profitable selling

Individuals interested and having the skills described are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than January 31, 2012. PLEASE QUOTE: "Retail Sales Account Manager - Winnipeg" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

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Fuel miser

The Skyactiv's performance is achieved from a higher-than-usual 12.0:1 compression ratio. Normally this would necessitate a premium-gasoline diet, but changes to the fuel management and engine design allow it to burn lower-octane — and less expensive — regular fuel.

The Skyactiv's six-speed automatic is the real fuel miser here with a consumption rating of 7.1 l/100 km city and 4.9 highway.

That's a major improvement over the 8.7/6.0 rating of the five-speed-automatic/base-2.0 combo.

Peppier ride

A few hundred kilometres of seat time confirms that the nature of the Mazda3 has changed for the better.

Although hardly a rocket ship (check out the 263-horsepower Mazdaspeed3 if that's your pleasure), the new model drives in a much sportier manner and certainly feels peppier.

Engine

Compared to the standard Mazda3, there's a revised — as in more aerodynamic — nose and tail. There's also a new Skyactiv 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine that's brimming with high-tech tricks.

It produces 155 horsepower and 148 pound-feet of torque. The base non-Skyactiv 2.0-litre engine makes 148 horsepower and 135 pound-feet of torque and is only available in base of the sedan. The optional 167-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder also carries over in both sedan and hatch.



► The Mazda3 is broken into two camps for 2012: standard carryover tech from 2011; and the upgraded platform with the new powertrain available in sedan and hatchback. Skyactiv is not an engine or an option package, but rather a whole different car.

Forget hybrids: Mazda's not giving up on gas

It's common for automakers to give labels to their more fuel-efficient offerings, whether that effi-

ciency is real or perceived. It's marketing and sales at its finest.

There's Ford's EcoBoost line of engines as well as Chevrolet's Ecotec and eAssist. And of course there's Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive electric/gas system.

Mazda, however, has taken the name game one step further by branding a whole car with its new "Skyactiv" magic wand.

The rationale behind this approach is straight-



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

forward. Mazda thinks traditional gasoline and diesel engines will remain the most popular form of automotive propulsion for the next few years. It therefore makes sense to continue refining those powerplants to be more efficient rather than spending millions of dollars on alternative-fuel vehicles, which make up a tiny slice of the pie.

Fair enough, but the reality is that other manufacturers are also refining internal combustion while still finding the resources to explore hybrids and electrics. Just look at the Chevrolet Volt. But what you won't read elsewhere is that Skyactiv is really a wholesale approach to a better driving experience with a reengineered chassis, transmissions and steering.

Fuel economy is just one aspect.

By comparison

Ford Focus

Base price: \$17,600
2012 version available in sedan, hatch formats plus upcoming electric model.

Honda Civic

Base price: \$16,400
Sedans and coupes offer a good mix of performance and fuel economy.

Hyundai Elantra

Base price: \$17,350
Cool-looking sedan delivers great looks and excellent fuel economy.

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Subaru Impreza Compact Sedan/Wagon –
\$22,600 (est.) base price, including destination.



IMPREZA'S BOLD NEW LOOK

SEDAN/WAGON FEATURES BROAD-SHOULDERED STYLING SIMILAR TO WRX AND STI

Aside from vehicle weight and the type of powertrain installed, the overriding fact to fuel economy is how you drive.

Steady-state cruising is one thing, but blasting around town with your foot to the floor is a sure way to destroy any hope of matching manufacturer claims. All-wheel-drive also negatively impacts fuel economy, but Subaru has managed to hang onto it for every model in the 2012 lineup, including the redesigned Impreza that also features the kind of bolder, broad-shouldered flared-fender styling similar to the WRX and STI models that were redesigned for 2011.

As well, the front and rear clip and sedan roofline are reminiscent of the

larger Legacy. Meanwhile, the wagon's nose has much in common with the Outback, but the rest of the sheet metal is in sync with the WRX.

Other changes include a more steeply raked windshield and a front roof pillar that has been moved forward by nearly 20 centimetres, allowing for a much wider front door opening. The distance between the front wheels has also been slightly extended, while overall length and width remains unchanged.

Inside, the redesigned instrument panel is now flatter for improved forward visibility. Both it, the door panels and floor console have been coated in richer-looking soft-touch materials

and the wagon's rear seat now folds down to create a completely flat load floor.

The new 2.0-litre, four-cylinder generates 148 horsepower while the previous model's 2.5-litre, four-cylinder made 170. Despite the output decrease, Subaru claims the 2.0 will still provide lively performance due to reduced vehicle weight.

But the engine's biggest advantage is a significant improvement in overall fuel economy, rated at 10.4 l/100 km in the city and 7.5 highway. The best the 2011 Impreza could muster was 11.3/8.1.

These gains are also partly derived from a continuously variable transmission (CVT) that's optional (a five-speed

manual gearbox is standard).

In up-level Imprezas, the CVT comes with a six-speed-manual mode that employs steering-wheel-mounted paddle shifters to operate six preset ratios.

There are no fewer than four distinct trim levels with the base version receiving air conditioning, tilt/telescoping steering wheel, remote keyless entry plus the usual power-operated controls.

From there the sky's the limit, topping out with the Limited and Sport Limited wagon models that arrive with leather seats, unique 17-inch alloy wheels and premium audio packages, to name just a few highlights.

— wheelbasemedia.com



**BASE PRICES
INCLUDING DESTINATION**



LEGACY: MID-SIZED SEDAN – \$25,700



WRX STI: COMPACT SEDAN/WAGON – \$39,600



WRX: COMPACT SEDAN/WAGON – \$32,500



OUTBACK: MID-SIZED WAGON – \$30,700



FORESTER: MID-SIZE SUV – \$27,600

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2012
Impreza 2.0i

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*Model shown is a 2012 Impreza 2.0i 5MT (CF1 BP) with MSRP of \$22,105 including freight & PDI (\$1,595), documentation fees (\$395) and air and tire levies (\$120). License, taxes, insurance and registration extra. **2.9% Lease and Finance APR valid on new 2012 Impreza 2.0i 5MT (CF1 BP) models for a 24 month term. Financing and leasing programs available through Toyota Credit Canada Inc. on approved credit. Dealers may sell for less. †Comparison based upon Natural Resources Canada estimated highway fuel economy for all 2011 AWD vehicles. ††Based on manufacturer-estimated fuel economy of 8.3L/100 km (city) and 5.9L/100 km (highway) for a 2012 Subaru Impreza 2.0i 5MT (CF1 BP). Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving conditions, driver habits, and vehicle load. **Offer valid until Jan. 31, 2012.



Kia Rio Sedan — \$15,500 (est.), base price, including destination.

LEADING THE WAY

KIA OFFERS BRILLIANT STYLE AND DRIVING EXPERIENCE

The Optima should have provided everyone a solid four-wheel clue as to how serious Kia was becoming about leading instead of following. The style is brilliant and the driving experience leaves little to be desired. But that can't hold true for the bargain-basement Rio, can it?

The all-new sedan and Rio 5-Door hatchback bear little resemblance to their predecessors, with far more pleasing sheet metal and a dash layout that's attractively shaped, clearly presented and use better materials.

The new standard 1.6-litre, four-cylinder produces 138 horsepower and 123 pound-feet of torque, a gain of 28 horses and 16 pound-feet of torque over the outgoing 1.6, which is significant for a 1,100-kilogram vehicle.

The lighter (by 13 kilograms) engine is connected to a six-speed manual transmission, or optional six-speed automatic. It's also available with Idle Stop and Go (ISG), an optional automatic-transmission-only feature that shuts off the engine after the Rio comes to a complete stop, then instantly fires it up again once the brake pedal is released.

Kia claims overall fuel consumption is reduced by about three per cent. That's only a slight decrease, but every little bit helps and the Rio's 6.6 l/100 km city and 4.9 highway ratings are a

NEWS FOR 2012

- Kia walks the same path as Hyundai and that means to-die-for body work and fuel-efficient power-trains.
- New Rio challenges conventional thinking about a small Kia and the technology and features it should have.
- Hybrid joins Optima lineup with some special tricks.
- Idle stop-and-go function introduced.
- Soul brought in for a mid-cycle refresh.
- UVO voice-command entertainment/communications system.

no-contest improvement, compared to its previous 7.5/5.6 numbers.

The base Rio LX with the manual gearbox is somewhat light in the content department, while the EX includes air conditioning, plus lots of power-operated and convenience accessories. The SX can also be outfitted with leather-covered seats, keyless start and a navigation system.

The Rio's new 1.6-litre engine is used in other applications, such as the Soul wagon, which gets a full refresh both inside and out for 2012. New

headlamps and LED taillights are the jewelry on top of a revised hood, front and rear fascias, fog lights and wheel designs for all three trim levels. The optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder has been retuned to deliver 160 horsepower (up from 142).

As with all other Kias, the Soul gets six-speed manual or six-speed automatic transmissions at all trim levels. All these changes have slightly improved fuel economy, too.

Otherwise, the Soul is still cleverly packaged for maximum customization and a wide range of price points with decent fuel economy: 7.0 l/100 km in the city and 5.4 on the highway (previously 7.7/6.3) for the 1.6. The best bet for efficiency comes in the much larger Optima Hybrid — about 5.6 l/100 km city and 4.9 highway — but even the base engine produces a 8.7 l/100 km in the city.

Most interesting is that the hybrid system uses new-tech lithium-polymer batteries that are lightweight and can actually be formed into shapes. The hybrid can travel at speeds of up to 60 mph (96 km/h) without the gas engine assisting.

In other powertrain news, the Sportage receives a new optional 270-horsepower 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder engine that's shared with other Kia/Hyundai models.

— wheelbasemedia.com



BASE PRICES INCLUDING DESTINATION



OPTIMA: MID-SIZE SEDAN; \$23,450



FORTE KOUP: COMPACT COUPE; \$20,450



FORTE: COMPACT SEDAN; \$17,450



SORENTO: MID-SIZE SPORT UTILITY; \$26,900



SOUL: COMPACT WAGON; \$18,250



SEDONA: MINIVAN; \$29,650



SPORTAGE: COMPACT WAGON; \$24,000

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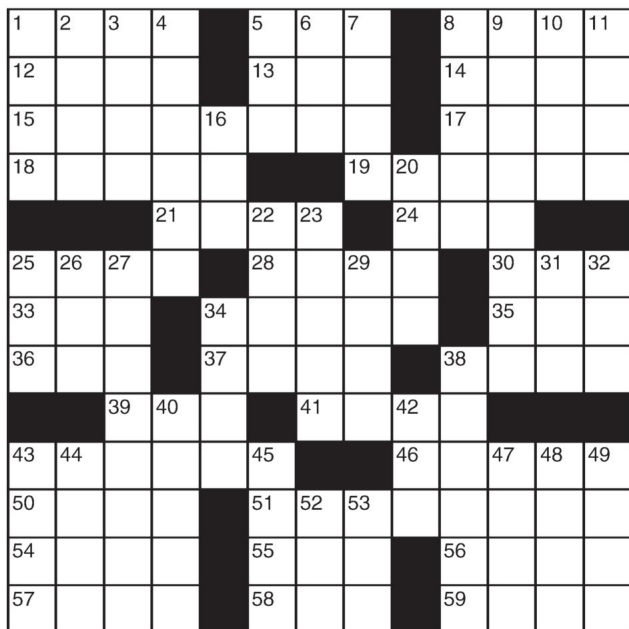
Crossword

Across

1 Protected
5 Transgression
8 Agile
12 Yoked team
13 Japanese pond carp
14 Hint
15 Making a vow
17 Luau dance
18 Excited
19 Carpentry tool
21 Campus mil. org.
24 Tennis stroke
25 Easy gait
28 Landlord's due
30 A Gershwin brother
33 Piercing tool
34 YouTube upload
35 Sister
36 1980s-90s Chevy subdivision
37 Top
38 Old
39 Bronze
41 Slow-cooker recipe
43 Photo finishes
46 Shortwave or CB
50 Eye part
51 Recent fad requiring one to lie stiff
54 Baseball team
55 Have a bug
56 Satanic
57 Lady —
58 Ball prop
59 Archibald of NBA lore

Down

1 Former frosh
2 Wheelbase terminus
3 Yard trio
4 Last
5 Tackle moguls
6 Charged bit
7 In the offing
8 Jerk
9 Pipes and such
10 Legislate
11 Calendar quota
16 Mailing HQ
20 Choir member
22 Stumble
23 Relinquishes
25 Trail behind
26 Have bills
27 Cabal's work

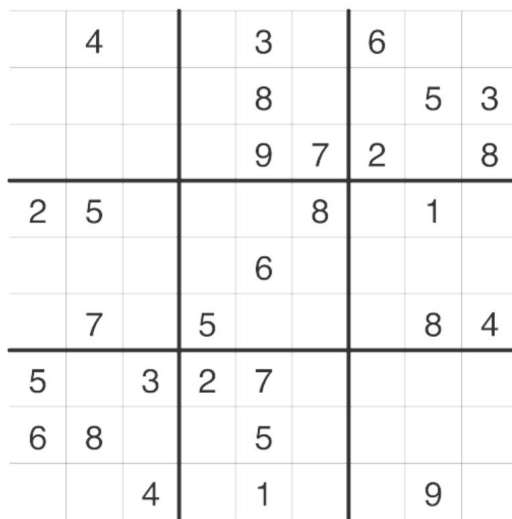


29 Adjoining
31 Regret
32 Moreover
34 Barn roof adornment
38 Stir
40 Bewildered
42 Coastal eagle
43 Chinese dynasty
44 Met melody
45 Quarrel
47 44-Down singer
48 First ltr.
49 Look longingly
52 Big fib
53 Hearty brew

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►

4	3	6	1	8	5	7	2	9
9	5	2	7	3	4	8	6	1
8	7	1	2	6	9	4	3	5
3	8	7	5	9	2	6	1	4
6	1	9	8	4	7	2	5	3
2	4	5	6	1	3	9	8	7
1	2	3	4	7	8	5	9	6
5	9	4	3	2	6	1	7	8
7	6	8	9	5	1	3	4	2

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -10° Max 3°	Min -9° Max 2°	Min -13° Max -4°

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20

You seem to be worrying about something that is not worth the hassle. It's best if you let it go.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21

The message of the stars is clear: Don't be hasty. You will get your chance to shine early next month.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21

You'll have to deal with someone's negative emotions today, without becoming negative yourself.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22

Do you ignore a problem and hope that it will go away? Yes. This is one of those occasions when what looks like a problem really isn't.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23

Be careful what you say today because if you are not, someone could take it the wrong way.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Look on the bright side today, even if the news you receive is dark. According to the planets, you have little to worry about.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

This is potentially one of the most exciting times of the year, so why are you so fearful that something bad is going to happen?

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Try not to dwell on news, especially if it involves people you care for.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

The signals you are getting from colleagues are jumbled. It might be wise follow your instincts.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

You may be logical by nature but right now you are imagining weird and wonderful things. That's OK.

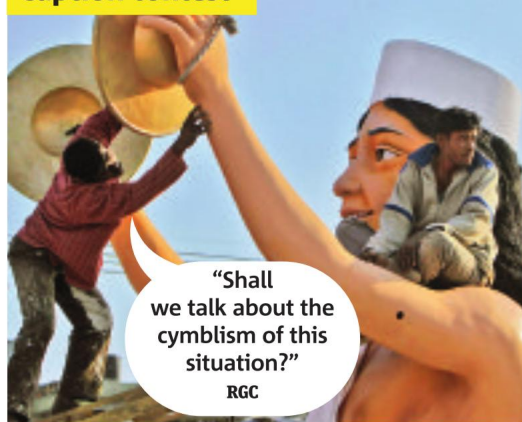
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Although you feel confident and full of life, this is probably not a good day to take chances.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

The Sun in Aquarius at this time of year makes you more suspicious than usual but maybe that's no bad thing. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest



SUSAN MONTVOYA BRYAN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's Metro.

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